



LEGALLY SPEAKING

The Stark County Law Library Association Newsletter

February 2002

Volume 23

Issue 2

Canton, Ohio

Tips for Questioning Children

Effectively questioning children in a courtroom requires different techniques than questioning adults.



"Children's Testimony: Helping Them Reveal What They Know," by Mindy F. Mitnick in the Fourth Quarter 2001 issue of *For the Record: News for the Ohio Courts*, provides suggestions on how to effectively question children. Mitnick points out that children often assign a different meaning to words than adults, so adults must learn to ask questions in ways that are comprehensible to a child, in order to elicit accurate answers from the child.

To communicate with a child in terms he or she can understand, the adult should avoid using legal jargon and technical terms, and should also be very specific, using names instead of pronouns and avoiding abstract terms. The questioner should ask simple questions, if

necessary, asking several questions instead of one question with multiple parts. Also, the adult should avoid shifting topics or the time frame. Often, children 11 or younger have difficulty with concepts of time, numbers, and measurement, and questions related to these concepts may need to be made in relative terms.



Mitnick also urges respect for the child's viewpoint, suggesting that the adult not substitute his/her words for the child's words, and that the questioner have some tolerance for a disorganized account of events.

The article contains other tips in addition to the ones listed here, and includes a list of suggested readings.

Put 360 Degrees.org on Your website!

Upon reading the "Top Online News Events During 2001" at <http://www.cyberjournalist.net/topten2001.htm> I noticed their 6th event was "Upstarts Win Awards." It was here that I found a link to 360 degrees.org, located on the

Web at: <http://360degrees.org/>. The site challenges your perspectives about who is in prison today and why. The "Dynamic Data" section, though still under construction, contains a quiz to find out if you're a criminal, with interesting results!

In the "Stories of Inmates" section, each story is a specific case and includes the perspectives of all the people involved. You can even explore each speaker's personal space, prison cells, offices, judges' chambers, and living rooms."

The "Timeline" section covers the years pre 601AD to the present. Under 2000 the topics included "Innocence and the Death Penalty", "Racial Profiling", and "Restorative Justice" which included a quicktime movie from "Circles" by Shanti Thakur. ¹ A link to this site would liven up your website.

Don't miss our display of library materials on Child Law located at the entrance to the library by the copy machine!



Legally Speaking
is published by
**The Stark County Law
Library Association**

110 Central Plaza South
Suite 401
Canton, OH 44702

Phone (330) 451-7380
FAX (330) 451-7381
director@starklawlibrary.org
<http://www.starklawlibrary.org>

Job Hunting?

Young lawyers who are job hunting should not rely too much on the Internet! Job seekers should use the Internet to collect information, but should know that employee's referrals are the number one source of how people get hired in the majority of corporations in America, says Mark Mehler, from the consulting company CareerXroads.

At nine big public companies, 16% of their total hires were initiated at the corporate Web site, according to a study by CareerXroads.² To find lists of law firm websites go to <http://www.lawresearchservices.com/index.htm> and under "Employment Opportunities" select "Law Firms on-line."³

The four biggest job boards accounted for a very small percentage of hiring.

- Monster.com <www.monster.com> accounted for 1.4%,
- Hotjobs.com <www.hotjobs.com> 0.39%,
- CareerBuilder <www.careerbuilder.com> 0.27%
- HeadHunter.net <www.headhunter.net> 0.27%⁴

Networking and affiliating are still the best way to get a foot in the door! See our article, "Young Lawyers: Affiliate!" on page two in the November, 2001 Legally Speaking newsletter at www.starklawlibrary.org/newsletter/Nov2001.pdf



Meet Your Library Staff



Example is not the main thing
in influencing others.
It is the only thing.

Albert Schweitzer

With the new year comes the arrival of a new staff member, Sue Bednar who will be serving as a file clerk at the main library on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Sue's hard work and smile set a good example for us all.

To help you get to know her better I have "borrowed" the concluding interview questions from A&E's "Inside the Actor's Studio".

What is your favorite word? *Vacation—many pleasant memories are associated with this word.*

What is your least favorite word? *Terrorist.*

What turns you on or excites you? *Fiction books.*

What turns you off? *Rude individuals.*

Other than your present position, what profession or occupation would you most like to try? *Psychologist.*

What profession/occupation would you not like? *Coroner.*

What do you want to hear God say to you at the Pearly Gates? *Welcome to Eternity.*

Welcome! To Our Newest Members

Alissa Amsden-Michel
John P. Archer
Trent A. Binger
Christopher S. Humphrey
Catherine S. Lowman
Kathleen A. Mihalik
Julie Moore
Shila Nalawadi
Andrea Kaye Smith

Have you applied for membership?

Complete a **membership application** at the law library.
Or call, we'll FAX or email you one.
Your **first year** of membership is **free!**

Members should have received bills for the 2002 membership in early January. Please renew your membership promptly.

Footnotes

¹ [360 degrees](http://360degrees.org/360degrees.html). Picture Projects. 10 Jan 2002. <<http://360degrees.org/360degrees.html>>

^{2 & 4} Maher, Kris and Rachel Emma Silverman. "Job Sites Produce Few Actual Hires Frustrated Job-seekers Disenchanted With Online Services." MSNBC Career Journal.com. 2 Jan 2002. MSNBC. 23 Jan 2002 <<http://www.msnbc.com/news/680715.asp>>. Cited by Gary Price at: [The Virtual Acquisition Shelf & News Desk](http://resourceshelf.blogspot.com/) on 2 Jan 2002. <<http://resourceshelf.blogspot.com/>>

³ "Just The LawLinks Vol. 6 No. 01" [Law Research: The Internet Law Library](http://www.lawresearch.com/newsletter/vol6-01web2.htm#3). January 2002 LawResearch.Com Inc.. 32 Jan 2002. <<http://www.lawresearch.com/newsletter/vol6-01web2.htm#3>>

All of the following cited publications are available in print at the law library.

CIVIL LIBERTIES

- "Biometric Surveillance: Searching For Identity."* 57 The Business Lawyer 497.
- "Checking Out Claims of Harassment: How to Investigate by the Book."* [Business Law Today](#), January/February 2002, at 15.
- "An eHealth Diptych: The Impact of Privacy Regulation on Medical Error and Malpractice Litigation."* 27 [American Journal of Law & Medicine](#) 361.
- "Liberty vs. Safety: Our Obligation to be Wise."* Cleveland Bar Journal, November 2001, at 2.
- "The Prosecution of Christian Scientists: A Needed Protection For Children or Insult Added To Injury?"* 48 Cleveland State Law Review 479.
- "Sexual Harassment as Discrimination 'Because of...Sex': Have We Come Full Circle?"* 27 Ohio Northern University Law Review 439.
- "The Supreme Court, the Press, and Illegally Recorded Cellular Telephone Calls."* Human Rights, Fall 2001, at 17. Available at [OPLIN](#) in EBSCO Database, enter key words <Illegally recorded cellular>
- "Victim's Rights in Juvenile Court: Has the Pendulum Swung Too Far?"* Judicature, November/December 2001, at 140.

EVIDENCE

- "E' Is For Eclectic: Multiple Perspectives on Evidence."* 87 Virginia Law Review 2029.
- "Is a DNA Identification Database in Your Future?"* Criminal Justice, Fall 2001, at 4.
- "Reading The Rules Again: Trial Lawyers Will Be Pleasantly Surprised If They Focus on What's Allowed Rather Than Forbidden by the Rules of Evidence."* ABA Journal, January 2001, at 52

FAMILY LAW

- "Conducting Psychological Evaluations in Relocation Cases."* 15 American Journal of Family Law 286.
- "The Education of All Children With Disabilities: Integrating Home-Schooled Children into the Individuals With Disabilities Act."* 62 Ohio State Law Journal 1515.
- "Homecoming: Determining the Appropriate Moves to Restore Custody to Parents."* Ohio Lawyer, January/February 2002, at 6.
- "Kids of Long-Dead Dad Are Ruled His Heirs."* [The National Law Journal](#), January 14, 2002, at A4.

INTERNATIONAL LAW

- "Arbitration Makes Sense in International Intellectual Property Disputes."* Dispute Resolution Journal, November 2001/January 2002, at 30.
- "Legal Arsenal: International Law Can Be an Important Element in the United States' Campaign Against Terrorism."* ABA Journal, December 2001, at 42.

LAW OFFICE MANAGEMENT

- "Hire Right: Fit the Talent to the Firm."* Law Practice Management, January/February 2002, at 34.
- "Making Your Mark in International Law."* Student Lawyer, January 2002, at 22
- "The Strongest Link: Some of the Most Progressive Companies Bolster Their Benefits Packages to Strengthen the Team."* SBN Magazine, December 2001, at 6.

PRACTICE OF LAW

- "11 Ways to Improve Courtroom Performance."* The Brief, Fall 2001, at 58.
- "A Question of Competency: Representing People With Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities."* OACDL Vindicator, Fall 2001, at 10.
- "From Tobacco to Health Care and Beyond—A Critique of Lawsuits Targeting Unpopular Industries."* 86 Cornell Law Review 1334

TECHNOLOGY

- "How to Determine the Best Options for Case Management Software."* Law Technology News, January 2002, at 30.
- "Online Video Interviews Catch on With Law Firms."* ABA Journal, November 2001, at 26.
- "Using PowerPoint in Litigation: The Basics."* GPSOLO, December 2001, at 36.
- "Videoconferencing on the Rise in Wake of 9/11 Attacks."* Lawyers Weekly USA, January 21, 2002 at 3.

**Stark County Law Library
Association**

110 Central Plaza South, Suite 401
Canton, OH 44702
(Located in the Stark County Office
Building, Fourth Floor)

Ph (330) 451-7380
FAX (330) 451-7381

Hours: Mon-Fri, 8:30am-4:30pm

Board of Trustees

John H. Brannen, President	Thomas Connors
Evan W. Morris, Vice-pres.	Hon. Sheila Farmer
John R. Frank, Sec./Treas.	Sam O. Simmerman
	William G. Williams

Law Library Staff

Kendel Croston, Director
Carol Hinkel, Paraprofessional Librarian
Roberta Ponting, Bookkeeper
Pam Frame, Library Assistant
Sue Bednar, File Clerk
Ida Pedrotty, File Clerk
Nancy Stinson, File Clerk
Ben Wertz, File Clerk
Martha Wertz, File Clerk

**DIAL-IN TO OUR
CATALOG**

With telecommunication
software in place,
use these settings:

Phone number 451-7379
Baud: 9600
Parity: N
Data bits: 8
Stop bits: 1
Duplex: F,
Login: dialin.
Password: dialin.
Terminal type: VT100
Press enter at main
SIRSI screen.
Select Utility: Wsclient
Press BEGIN to start
Choose Library Catalog

For more detailed
instructions, please
contact the law library at
451-7380.

Membership and Fees: Membership is open
to those who have passed the Ohio State Bar
Examination.

Membership is complimentary for 1st year
\$15 for the 2nd - 49th year
and complimentary for 50th+ year.

Membership checks must be separate from
other payments, please.

Circulation: Most print materials can be
checked out by members for two weeks.
Some items may be taken out overnight only.
You may renew items by phone.

Online Databases Available to members:
Internet (including email), WestLaw, LEXIS-
NEXIS, OPEN, PubMed, First Search,
LoisLaw, BNA Employment Law Library, and
CCH Human Resources. Technical support
from the staff is available. Charges vary.

Photocopies: \$.15 each, self-service. Vend-
ing cards may be purchased in any amount.
Microfiche/film copies are also \$.15 each.
Printing from computers is \$.15 per page.

FAX services for members: Send a fax for
\$.25 per page within our local calling area,
\$.50 outside. Receive free of charge.

Reference services for members by phone,
fax and email are available.

Inter-library Loan services for members are
available. Charges vary.

Free Training for members on any electronic
service.



LEGALLY SPEAKING

Stark County Law Library Association
110 Central Plaza South, Suite 401
Canton, OH 44702

Ph (330) 451-7380
FAX (330) 451-7381

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO.
669
CANTON, OHIO



"We aim above the mark to hit the mark."

-Ralph Waldo Emerson